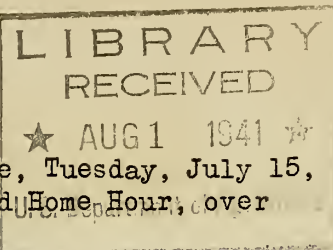


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Highlights of June Hatchery Report



Broadcast by E. J. Rowell, Agricultural Marketing Service, Tuesday, July 15, 1941, in the Department of Agriculture period, National Farm and Home Hour, over stations associated with the National Broadcasting Company.

---ooOoo---

DuMars:

Early in April, Secretary Wickard appealed to all poultrymen to raise more chickens and produce more eggs. For news on the progress in this direction here's E. J. "Mike" Rowell with a brief summary of the hatchery report for June. So let's listen and see how well we are coming along in the drive for more chickens and more eggs this year. All right, Mike.

Rowell:

Thanks Duke. This looks like a year of a billion chicks. Yes, more than a billion chicks if the hatcheries turn out as many chicks during the rest of this year as they did during the last half of 1940. Already more chickens have been hatched in the first six months of 1941--nearly 913 million--than during the previous record year when only a few over 900 million chickens were hatched, in the 12 months of 1939.

Production usually drops during the month of June but this year the number of chicks hatched by commercial hatcheries is estimated at 70 percent over June of last year. It is expected that the total number for June will be more than 130 million compared with 77 million in June last year.

The output was higher too in all sections of the country.

Because conditions are favorable in the poultry industry we'll probably see a fairly strong demand for chicks during the rest of this year. Feed rates are favorable to the poultryman and prices of live and dressed poultry are steady to firm. Also Government purchases of eggs continue at a liberal rate with no sign of letup.

Just a word about turkeys--reports from 71 hatcheries showed 61 percent more turkey eggs set and 44 percent more poults hatched during June compared with a year ago.

And so Duke--you can see the poultrymen have answered the call.

DuMars:

Yes, and that's very good news.

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Printed on 10/1/19

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